

CLERK: Senator Beutler and Chambers would move to amend, AM4034. (See page 1453 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Clerk, this is AM4034?

CLERK: Yes, sir.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. Senator Crosby, members of the Legislature, this is an amendment which is a compromise and I think has been agreed to by the proponents of the bill. It has to do with the conflict or the difference in philosophy as to whether you try to help just the low income people or whether there's another level of recipients who are somewhat above the low income people who it is either expedient, necessary, or seem to be good policy to assist. And I come from the philosophy that government should be out of all assistance to the middle class so that government can get smaller and help only...by helping only those who really need to be helped. This particular amendment sets up a process by which more than just the low income will be assisted, but a priority will be given as best they feel they can do it under the financing constrictions or restrictions that seem to pertain to this kind of housing, at least in many different scenarios. So what it does is to develop an allocation plan and to give priority to financially viable projects that serve the lowest income occupants and who serve them for the longest period of time, and that seems to be the best compromise that can come out of this particular situation. Because it focuses on the lowest income, because it gives those kinds of projects priority, I'm very much in favor of this amendment and hope it meets with the approval of the body, and I would turn the rest of my time over to Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Discussion on the Beutler amendment?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: He gave me his time.

SENATOR CROSBY: Oh, I'm sorry. You have about eight minutes left, about eight minutes, Senator Chambers.